

But they have been working on this bipartisan framework for more than a month already, and it is time to begin the debate. We must make significant progress on both the bipartisan infrastructure bill and the budget resolution before the end of the work period. There is no reason we can't get the ball rolling this week on both elements of the Senate's infrastructure agenda.

#### VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT

Madam President, on one final matter, VOCA, tomorrow, the Senate will take up a desperately needed fix to the Victims of Crime Act. Survivors of violent crime often bear tremendous financial hardship, everything from medical costs to emergency housing, to legal fees and mental health services.

After suffering a violent crime, the last thing Americans should have to worry about is being unable to afford the basic services they need to stitch their lives back together. So, for over 35 years, the Justice Department's Crime Victims Fund has provided assistance to Americans impacted by violent crime, such as domestic abuse, sexual assault, human trafficking, DUIs, and other horrific crimes.

Traditionally, most of the funding came from penalties paid through Federal convictions, but over time the fund has shrunk dramatically. Compared to 5 years ago, next year, the victims of crime fund could fall to less than one-twentieth of its former size.

So, tomorrow, the Senate will vote on a measure to replenish the victim of crimes fund and ensure that it remains stable for the foreseeable future. This legislation passed the House with overwhelming bipartisan support, and here in the Senate it has at least 63 cosponsors. The legislation ought to sail through the Senate tomorrow.

The survivors of violent crimes deserve the peace of mind that they do not bear the burden of recovering from their trauma alone.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 142.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The clerk will report the nomination. The legislative clerk read the nomination of Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 142, Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security.

Charles E. Schumer, Ben Ray Lujan, Jeff Merkley, Raphael Warnock, Alex Padilla, Sheldon Whitehouse, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jack Reed, Patrick J. Leahy, Tammy Baldwin, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Christopher Murphy, Tim Kaine, John Hickenlooper, Angus S. King, Jr., Tammy Duckworth.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT—Motion to Proceed

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 100, H.R. 3684.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows: Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 100, H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

#### CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

#### CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 100, H.R. 3684, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

Charles E. Schumer, Alex Padilla, Jeff Merkley, Sheldon Whitehouse, Jon Tester, Christopher A. Coons, Benjamin L. Cardin, Jack Reed, Patrick J. Leahy, Tim Kaine, Tammy Baldwin, John Hickenlooper, Angus S. King, Jr., Tammy Duckworth, Patty Murray, Joe Manchin III, Mark Kelly, Kyrsten Sinema.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, July 19, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2382

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The leader is correct.

The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2382) to authorize the National Cyber Director to accept details from other elements of the Federal Government on non-reimbursable basis, and for other purposes.

Mr. SCHUMER. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

#### TRIBUTE TO BILL BRASCH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, for the past 3 years Bill Brasch has led our shared fraternity, Phi Kappa Tau, as national president, helping the organization navigate the tumultuous COVID-19 pandemic. Through his work, he helped maintain a vast network of philanthropy and brotherhood that has raised more than \$1.6 million for charity in the past 25 years and developed more than 100,000 men of character into men of distinction since 1906. Bill has contributed immensely to the continuity and growth of Phi Kappa Tau and helped it develop into a formidable nationwide organization.

Bill attended my alma mater, the University of Louisville, and built a prestigious reputation in student government and Greek life. He remained at the school after graduation, spending 32 years coordinating the construction and renovation of campus buildings, including the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity house in 2007. He continued his involvement in Phi Kappa Tau at both the local and national level, eventually rising to his current role in 2018.

Bill saw our fraternity through one of its most challenging periods when, in the spring of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic forced colleges and universities across the country to shutter. Thousands of brothers were sent home from campus, threatening the very core of fraternity life. Bill's tenure as national president, originally intended to be a 2-year term, was extended into 2021 as the crisis forced Phi Kappa Tau to cancel its national convention. However, through Bill's hard work, the fraternity didn't just survive the pandemic but thrived. Phi Kappa Tau is now well-prepared to return to campuses across the country and bring young men back together in brotherhood, just as it has for more than a century.

Bill Brasch has devoted his life to Phi Kappa Tau's mission "to champion a lifelong commitment to brotherhood, learning, ethical leadership and exemplary character." In recognition of his

dedicated work, he has been named the University of Louisville Alumni Fellow for 2021 and will be honored during the halftime celebration at this year's homecoming football game. His mentorship and leadership have been invaluable to our fraternity's success, both in Kentucky and across America. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to thank Bill for his leadership in times of crisis and congratulate him on a successful presidency.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARK AND LORI WILSON

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, for the past 15 years, Mark and Lori Wilson have been key organizers of Kentucky's legendary Fancy Farm Picnic, held annually at St. Jerome Catholic Church. This event brings together elected officials and spectators from all over the Commonwealth for good-natured debate and celebration. For decades, the impassioned speeches and zingers delivered at the Fancy Farm Picnic have riveted Kentuckians and brought nationwide fame to the event's namesake hometown. The picnic also serves as a significant fundraiser for St. Jerome, providing resources for the church's elementary school and charitable efforts serving the community. All this success would never have been possible without the dedicated leadership of local volunteers like Mark and Lori.

Every year, Mark and Lori welcome upwards of 15,000 attendees to Fancy Farm, KY, but that is merely the most widely known aspect of their work. They are also deeply involved in St. Jerome, helping the church year-round with its public service efforts. Mark is a longtime member of the western Kentucky agriculture industry, often humorously comparing his role at the Fancy Farm Picnic to farming: "like growing a crop of tobacco, it's a thirteen-month job." The couple are classic Kentuckians, dedicated to community and tradition.

Though the Fancy Farm Picnic was canceled last year due to the coronavirus pandemic, Mark and Lori built a strong foundation for the event to continue full-speed ahead this year. Under the leadership of their successor Steven Elder, Fancy Farm will continue to captivate the Commonwealth with its annual festival of bingo, barbeque, and amicable banter.

Mark and Lori have dedicated countless hours to their church, community, and State. On behalf of the Senate, I would like to express our gratitude for their committed work in support of the Commonwealth.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING BETTY THOMPSON

• Mr. BLUNT. Madam President, today I would like to recognize a good friend who has meant so much to those in St.

Louis, across Missouri, and throughout the Nation. Betty Thompson passed away Sunday, July 11, 2021, at the age of 81.

Betty was a great leader, respected voice in the community, and was known for her service to others. Along with her public service, she was known for her generosity and caring nature to help those in need. She was the first African American to serve on the University City City Council and remained on that council for 18 years. She then was elected in 1997 to serve in the Missouri House of Representatives where she represented the 72nd District until 2004. From being a State representative to her advocacy for civil rights, she truly was a beacon of light.

Betty and I saw each other many times over the past 12 years. She provided a welcoming environment no matter the place and was always a trusted counsel during our conversations.

Jack and Betty Thompson were a month away from celebrating their 62nd wedding anniversary. Along with her husband, Betty is survived by her children Tony Thompson, Sonja Branscomb, and Kwame Thompson, and seven grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her son, Tyrone Thompson, and grandson, Tyrell Thompson.

I am grateful to have known Betty and thankful for the impact she has had on my own life, as well as those around Missouri.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to section 104(c) of title I, division T of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum Council: Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, New York.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 8468(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following

Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Naval Academy: Mr. RUPPERSBERGER of Maryland, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Mr. PALAZZO of Mississippi, and Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 7455(a), clause 10 of rule I, and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Military Academy: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mrs. MURPHY of Florida, Mr. WOMACK of Arkansas, and Mr. DAVIDSON of Ohio.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9455(a), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Ms. SPEIER of California, Mr. LIEU of California, and Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 6:38 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 26. An act to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, to correct a provision on the prohibition on the use of a reverse auction, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1347. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Redesignation of Certain Unclassifiable Areas for the 2010 1-Hour Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) Primary National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS)" (FRL No. 10024-95-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1348. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of State Plans for Designated Facilities and Pollutants; North Dakota; Control of Emissions from Existing Municipal Solid Waste Landfills; Control of Emissions from Existing Commercial and Industrial Solid Waste Incineration Units; Negative Declaration of Existing Hospital/Medical/Infectious Waste Incineration Units" (FRL No. 10024-23-Region 8) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2021; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1349. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Utah; 2017 Base Year Inventories for the 2015 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard for the Uinta Basin, Northern Wasatch Front and Southern Wasatch Front Nonattainment Areas"